

Amendments to the Claims

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of optimizing a shopping list process, comprising steps

2 of:

3 obtaining a shopping list comprising a plurality of one or more items;

4 obtaining one or more factors which a user wishes to use in optimizing a shopping path for
5 the items on the shopping list;

6 programmatically determining a plurality of one or more merchants and locations thereof
7 where the items may be purchased; and

8 programmatically computing the shopping path such that the user can use the shopping
9 path to travel among the locations of at least two to visit selected ones of the merchants, wherein
10 the merchants are selected according to the one or more obtained factors.

1 Claim 2 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein one of the obtained
2 factors is to optimize a path length for physical length of the shopping path for travelling among
3 the selected merchants.

1 Claim 3 (original): The method according to Claim 1, wherein one of the obtained factors is to
2 optimize a purchase cost for the items on the shopping list.

1 Claim 4 (original): The method according to Claim 1, wherein one of the obtained factors is to
2 optimize a number of merchants on the shopping path.

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1 Claim 5 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising steps of:
2 traveling to each successive merchant on the computed shopping path;
3 purchasing zero or more items from the shopping list at each merchant; and
4 programmatically remembering which items from the shopping list have been purchased.

1 Claim 6 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 5, further comprising steps of:
2 programmatically creating a revised shopping list which excludes the programmatically
3 remembered items; and
4 determining whether items expected at a particular one of the merchants were available for
5 purchase, and if not, programmatically recomputing the shopping path after adding the items
6 which were unavailable to the revised shopping list.

1 Claim 7 (original): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the shopping path begins from an
2 identified starting location and terminates at an identified ending location, which may be identical
3 to the starting location.

1 Claim 8 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein one or more traveling
2 salesman algorithm implementations are used by the programmatically computing step.

1 Claim 9 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the programmatically
2 determining step further comprises the step of contacting the merchants in a dynamic and
3 automated manner are dynamically contacted to determine availability of the items on the

4 shopping list.

1 Claim 10 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 5, further comprising the step of
2 programmatically computing a summary after ~~visiting~~ travelling to the selected merchants,
3 wherein the summary comprises information pertaining to one or more of: which merchants were
4 ~~visited~~ travelled to; the remembered items which were purchased; a cost of the remembered items
5 which were purchased; a count of merchants ~~visited~~ travelled to; a cost savings of the
6 remembered items which were purchased.

1 Claim 11 (currently amended): A system for optimizing a shopping list process, comprising steps
2 of:
3 means for identifying a plurality of one or more items on a shopping list;
4 means for identifying one or more factors which a user wishes to use in optimizing a
5 shopping path for the identified items;
6 means for programmatically determining a plurality of one or more merchants and
7 locations thereof where the identified items may be purchased; and
8 means for programmatically computing the shopping path such that the user can use the
9 shopping path to travel among the locations of at least two to visit selected ones of the merchants,
10 wherein the merchants are selected according to the one or more identified factors.

1 Claim 12 (currently amended): The system according to Claim 11, further comprising means for
2 programmatically remembering which items from the shopping list have been purchased while

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traveling to each successive merchant on the computed shopping path.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The system according to Claim 12, further comprising:

means for programmatically creating a revised shopping list which excludes the

programmatically remembered items; and

means for determining whether items expected at a particular one of the merchants were available for purchase, and if not, programmatically recomputing the shopping path after adding the items which were unavailable to the revised shopping list.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A computer program product for optimizing a shopping list

process, the computer program product embodied on one or more computer-usable media and comprising:

computer readable program code means for identifying a plurality of one or more items on a shopping list;

computer readable program code means for identifying one or more factors which a user wishes to use in optimizing a shopping path for the identified items;

computer readable program code means for programmatically determining a plurality of one or more merchants and locations thereof where the identified items may be purchased; and

computer readable program code means for programmatically computing the shopping path such that the user can use the shopping path to travel among the locations of at least two to visit selected ones of the merchants, wherein the merchants are selected according to the one or more identified factors.

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1 Claim 15 (currently amended): The computer program product according to Claim 14, further
2 comprising computer readable program code means for programmatically remembering which
3 items from the shopping list have been purchased while traveling to each successive merchant on
4 the computed shopping path.

1 Claim 16 (currently amended): The computer program product according to Claim 15, further
2 comprising:

3 computer readable program code means for programmatically creating a revised shopping
4 list which excludes the remembered items; and

5 computer readable program code means for determining whether items expected at a
6 particular one of the merchants were available for purchase, and if not, programmatically
7 recomputing the shopping path after adding the items which were unavailable to the revised
8 shopping list.

1 Claim 17 (new): The method according to Claim 1, wherein a nearest neighbor algorithm
2 implementation is are used by the programmatically computing step.